

## Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 VO-05 CA-01 AID-05  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/094 W

-----015135 040547Z /17

R 040222Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
INS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 12884

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS SENT 29 APR 78 FM AMCONSUL UDORN  
PRIORITY ACTION TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AND IS REPEATED FOR YOUR  
ACTION/INFO

QOUTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 0109

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF TH LA  
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE FOR HMONGS AND OTHER REFUGEES IN  
NONG KHAI

REF: UDORN 108 (B) UDORN 0100 (C) STATE 071288  
(D) BANGKOK 10996 (E) UDORN 0090

1 . ICRC DELEGATE PETER BALTENSBERGER VISITED CONSULATE APRIL  
27. WE BRIEFED HIM ON CURRENT STATUS OF HMONG REFUGEE AND  
RELATED DEVELOPMENTS. HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION AND STATED  
THAT HE PLANNED TO SPEND ABOUT A WEEK IN NONG KHAI AREA TO  
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DETERMINE WHAT TYPE OF USEFUL ASSISTANCE ICRC MAY CONTINUE TO  
PROVIDE TO REFUGEES DETAINED IN DISTRICT JAILS AND PROVINCE  
DETENTION CENTER, PARTICULARLY HMONG WHO ARE USUALLY IN BAD  
PHYSICAL SHAPE AND DESTITUTE.

2. BALTENSBERGER STATED THAT HE DIRECTED HALF HIS MONTHLY  
BUDGET OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND BAHT (FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS)

IN MARCH TOWARDS PURCHASE OF FOOD AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT ITEMS FOR HMONG REFUGEES ENTERING NONG KHAI PROVINCE. HE SAID THAT HE USUALLY GIVES MONEY DIRECTLY TO DISTRICT POLICE CHIEFS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE SUCH PURCHASES. HE ADDED THAT HE IS SATISFIED, TO DATE, BASED ON RANDOM CHECKS, THAT HIS FUNDS ARE BEING PROPERLY SPENT AND SUPPLY ITEMS ARE REACHING REFUGEES AS INTENDED.

3. BALTENSBERGER POINTED OUT DURING DISCUSSION THAT POSSIBLE MILK PROGRAMS FOR REFUGEES THAT EITHER CANADIAN OR AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY DONATED EIGHT HUNDRED TONS OF POWDERED MILK TO RTG WHICH IS FACING DIFFICULT PROBLEMS OF BOTH STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS SUBSTANCE. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOME OF DONATED POWDERED MILK BE MADE AVAILABLE TO REFUGEES IN NONG KHAI, PERHAPS THROUGH ICRC AUSPICES BUT HE IS NOT SURE AT PRESENT HOW THIS COULD BE DONE. WE SUGGESTED THAT HE DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH IRC REP DR GARCIA NONG KHAI CAMP.

4. LATER DURING DAY OF 27TH, DR GARCIA CALLED AT CONSULATE. SHE EXPRESSED HER VIEWS REGARDING A REFUGEE MILK PROGRAM WHICH WE REPORTED REFTEL A. SHE ALSO TOLD US THAT CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE (CRS) HAS DECIDED TO FUND A REFUGEE-STAFFED MEDICAL TEAM, CONSISTING OF ONE DOCTOR, ONE NURSE, AND TWO CONFIDENTIAL

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PARAMEDICS, TO OPERATE ON DAILY BASIS IN NONG KHAI DETENTION CENTER. ACCORDING TO DR GARCIA, CRS ALUO PLANS TO MAKE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO SMALL GROUP OF THAI/FILIPINA CATHOLIC NUNS WHO WORK WITH REFUGEES IN NONG KHAI CAMP FOR REGULAR PURCHASE OF CLOTH, SALTED FISH AND OTHER BASIC THINGS REQUIRED BY POOREST REFUGEE FAMILIES.

5. COMMENT: LAST SEVERAL DAYS HAVE BROUGHT NEWS OF ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING INCREASED ASSISTANCE FOR HMONG AND OTHER REFUGEES IN NONG KHAI PROVINCE. IN THIS REGARD WE WILL

CITE RETURN OF ICRC DELEGATE BALTENSBERGER TO NONG KHAI, FORMATION OF CRS-SUPPORTED MEDICAL TEAM IN PROVINCIAL DETENTION CENTER, PLANS FOR IRC MILK PROGRAM IN BOTH DETENTION CENTER AND REFUGEE CAMP AND EXPANDED FUNDING AND STAFF OF CAMA SERVICES (REFTEL B).

6. THESE VOLAGS ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR STEPPED-UP RELIEF EFFORTS TO MEET NEEDS OF STEADILY GROWING REFUGEE POPULATION. WITHOUT THEIR HELP, REFUGEES' DAILY EXISTENCE, WHICH IS ALREADY GRIM ENOUGH, WOULD CERTAINLY BE FAR GRIMMER. FINNEY

UNQUOTE:

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 UDORN 108, 78 UDORN 100, 78 STATE 71288, 78 BANGKOK 10996, 78 UDORN 90  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ASSISTANCE FOR HMONGS AND OTHER REFUGEES IN NONG KHAI  
**TAGS:** SREF, TH, LA  
**To:** STATE CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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